



# Overview: CPR Recommendations on Boards and Commissions

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## Scope of Boards and Commissions

- No master inventory of state Boards and Commissions
- Boards and Commissions not generally identified on the state's organizational chart
- Boards and Commissions often add a layer and reduce direct government accountability
- Input and communication is critical and use of advisory committees and task forces is encouraged



## Legislative Oversight: A Comprehensive Review Process

- CPR used the Sunset Review Process to achieve similar results
- Joint Committee on Boards, Commissions and Consumer Protection (“JCBCCP,” formerly known as the Joint Legislative Sunset Review Committee) does not have enough resources to adequately review all Boards and Commissions at one time



## Sunset Review Process: 5 Major Questions

- What was the chief purpose for creating the board or commission?
- What are the chief powers and duties of the board or commission?
- What costs are associated with this entity?
- Are there other entities that logically should perform the functions of the entity?
- Must this duty be performed by an autonomous body?



## A Time For Change?

*“The systems of accounting long in use in California, as elsewhere, tend to becloud rather than clarify the situation which confronts the inquirer. The multiplicity of offices, boards, bureaus and commissions, with the variety of their functions, also creates a bewildering maze in which any but the most painstaking and persistent investigation is apt to go astray.”*

*Report of the Tax Payer's Association of California  
June 1918*



## A Need For Review

*Governor Ronald Reagan*

*“No government ever voluntarily reduces itself in size. Government programs, once launched, never disappear. Actually, a government bureau is the nearest thing to eternal life we’ll ever see on this earth.”*



## Seeking Balance: Pros & Cons

- Boards can provide transparency, access and finality:
- Boards can undermine accountability, shared goals, confidence in government.





# Finding Balance: Analyzing the Options

- Government must be intuitive.
- Government must be responsive.





# Finding Balance: Accountability and Accessibility

- Vertically integrated structures
- Existing and new mechanisms for public access



## The Results of Evaluative Process

Total Boards Evaluated 339	Total Appointees 3,365
Boards Retained 222	Appointees Retained 2,212
Boards Eliminated 117	Appointee Eliminated 1,153

Total Savings 34 Million Dollars